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WAR NEWS.

A dispatch has been received announcing a general engagement at Perryville, Ky. On Wednesday the Confederates attacked the Federal troops, and a desperate fight ensued, the Confederates gaining ground. Yesterday, General McCook having been heavily reinforced, the battle was renewed, and kept up until seven o'clock. The Federal loss is reported at two thousand killed and wounded. The Confederate loss was not ascertained. It was rumored that at the close of the engagement the Confederates had possession of part of the battle-field. Gen. James S. Jackson, (ex-Congressman from Kentucky,) commanding a division, was killed. It is reported that Gen. Sheridan, of Illinois, was also among the killed. Perryville is forty-two miles south from Frankfort, Ky.

A reconnoissance to Leesburg, Va., was made on 8th inst. Two miles north of the town the Federal troops captured a Confederate wagon train containing some of the baggage of General Longstreet and staff, and some army stores. On Wednesday another reconnoissance towards Rappahannock Station was sent out. No Confederates were seen at that place, but a small force occupied a position beyond. At Aldie some fifty or sixty prisoners were captured and paroled. A large force of Confederate cavalry and conscripts were at Gordonsville.

Intelligence from the Gulf of Mexico indicates that a combined attack of land and naval forces is soon to be made on Galveston, Texas—this being the destination of the expedition known to be fitting out at Pensacola.

The Confederates, on Saturday last, cut off and dispersed a company of Federal cavalry near Hardinsville, Ky. The Federal troops had left Frankfort, and the town had been occupied by the Confederates under Col. Morgan. Yesterday, it is reported, Gen. Dumont attacked Morgan and defeated his forces with but small Federal loss. The Federal troops in the vicinity of Cincinnati broke up camp on Wednesday and moved southward. Major Gen. Granger has assumed command and will conduct the campaign in Northern and Central Kentucky. It is believed that the main bodies of the Confederates are falling back towards Cumberland Gap.

The Washington Star says:—"Many of the usually best regiments have not received a cent for full eight months. We may add that at this moment there are believed to be forty-five millions of dollars of requisitions lying in the Treasury Department unhonored, because, as is alleged, the money to meet them cannot be prepared in due time. Nine-tenths of these requisitions are doubtless for military and naval expenditures—to pay soldiers, sailors, contractors, &c."

On Tuesday night, a schr. believed to be the Francis Ellmore, was discovered on fire in the Potomac, near the Kettle Bottoms, between upper and lower Cedar Point. She burnt to the water's edge. She was loaded with hay. It is feared the crew have been all burned up, as the small boat was picked up afterwards by the Potomac flotilla.

The Wheeling Intelligencer learns "that the Government has decided to suspend the operations of the tax law in Western Virginia for the present. It will not pay at present to put the machinery in motion for so small an amount as would be collected."

Sir John Bowring, writing from Hamburg, says:—"I had an opportunity of hearing a good deal of the future Queen of England, and all that I hear is favorable. She is amiable, graceful, pretty, accomplished, and a favorite of those who know her. The young Prince saw her first stealthily, his presence not being announced to her. The Prince afterwards met her at the Duchess of Cambridge's villa, near Frankfort, and the impression made was deep, and, is to be hoped, will be lasting."

Gen. A. A. Buckingham writes from Washington to a gentleman in Pottsville, Pa., as follows:—"In reply to yours of 14th inst., relative to persons who have presented themselves for exemption from draft, with the forefinger taken off at the first joint, I am directed to say that the loss of the first joint of the forefinger will not exempt a person from draft, if he can fight."

The firm of Ward & McClellan, druggists, at Memphis, have been detected in smuggling drugs into the Confederatelines, for which they have been sentenced to confinement in the Alton Penitentiary during the war. Mansfield & Co. have been detected in the same offence, and, as they had taken the oath of allegiance, their entire stock, worth over \$60,000, was confiscated, and they were sent to Alton during the war. Dr. Plummer has been caught in the same offence, and will be treated as a spy.

Everywhere in Western Virginia, where the Confederates have the power, the Wheeling Intelligencer states, they are enforcing the Conscription act.

The funeral of the late Hon. Lewis Steenrod took place on Sunday from the house of his father near Wheeling, Va. The attendance of the friends of the family was very large, the train of carriages containing them extending more than a mile in length.

The elections which took place in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa, next Tuesday, are attracting great attention, as the congressmen to be chosen at that time will be the first indication of the popular feeling respecting the emancipation policy of the administration and its conduct of the war.

The supply of postage currency will now be rapidly increased. Thus far it has been furnished at the rate of only \$27,000 per day; but hereafter it will be delivered at the rate of \$40,000 per day, and soon at the rate of \$60,000.

The Baltimore American says:—Calvert county has not sent a single volunteer to the field, Charles but one, Montgomery only seven, Prince George's two, and St. Mary's four.—These counties have therefore nearly their whole quota to raise, whilst their able-bodied population has been reduced by their young men going South. Some other counties are also largely deficient. But in other portions of the state the volunteers have been numerous, and the deficiency in the whole state of Maryland is only 6,000 to be filled by draft.

Among other prisoners, recently released from Richmond, are several colored men belonging in Washington. They were captured on the Bull Run battle-field, and being free men, were released by the authorities of Richmond and sent home.

John Ross, chief of the Cherokees, is again in Washington. Having learned that the Commissioner had returned, he came on to have an interview relative to the condition of his people. He claims the protection of the Government.

A new counterfeit has made its appearance, and circulates quite freely. The following is the description given by Thompson's detector: 2's, Merchant's Bank of Baltimore, vignette, two females seated, canal boats, cars, &c.; right end female leaning on a shield, with figure 2 on it—not good at all.

At the sale on Wednesday last, at Annapolis, Maryland, of mule colts; six month's old and under, on account of the United States, by Marshall & Page, auctioneers, the average price was twenty-nine dollars.

Surgeon Kunkle, of the 73d Pennsylvania regiment, attached to Gen. Sigel's Corps, is now making arrangements for fitting up a hospital for the corps at Fairfax Seminary.

The results of the war, are daily shown in the numerous applications from widows and children for pensions. The average is nearly two hundred per day, involving much labor in that bureau.

The last weekly returns of the New York Banks shows an increase of deposits and loans to the extent of more than four and a half millions each.

The number of persons enrolled in Prince George's county, Md., is 1,916, of whom about 600 have been exempted.

The Seventh Maine regiment, now containing about one hundred men, is *en route* for home, for the purpose of recruiting its ranks. Gen. McClellan has written a letter to the Governor of Maine, complimenting the regiment.

Dr. David P. Smith, Surgeon of the U. S. Army General Hospital, at Fairfax Va., writes to the Springfield Republican that the list furnished by the people of the North was of the greatest value to nearly four hundred of the most severely wounded at the battle of Bull Run.

Brigadier General J. B. McPherson has been promoted to a Major Generalship for services in the West.